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(21) International Application Number: PCT/GB00/00591 (22) International Filing Date: 18 February 2000 (18.02.00) (30) Priority Data: 99301195.6 18 February 1999 (18.02.99) EP (71) Applicant (for all designated States except US): ICO SERVICES LIMITED [GB/GB]; 1 Queen Caroline Street, London W6 9BN (GB). (72) Inventor; and (75) Inventor/Applicant (for US only): WYRWAS, Richard [GB/GB]; 54 The Mall, Southgate, London N14 6LN (GB). (74) Agents: MUSKER, David, Charles et al.; R.G.C. Jenkins & Co., 26 Caxton Street, London SW1H 0RJ (GB).		(81) Designated States: JP, US. Published <i>With international search report.</i>
(54) Title: COMMUNICATIONS APPARATUS AND METHOD (57) Abstract A method of mitigating interference in a satellite user uplink signal of a satellite mobile communications system which comprises a plurality of non-geostationary orbiting satellites (4) each radiating a beam pattern of multiple beams, comprising: providing overlapping coverage of a region of the Earth which is subject to interference at an interference frequency, by a first beam of a first satellite (4a) and at least a second beam of a second satellite (4b); determining which of said first or said second beam is more peripheral within their respective satellite beam patterns; and controlling communication (e.g. not using) on the more peripheral said beam to limit reception thereby at said interference frequency.		